

EXHIBIT F

**CHAPTER 112
HB 400 - FINAL VERSION**

8Mar2017... 0445h
05/11/2017 1626s
05/31/2017 2033s
05/31/2017 2139s
05/31/2017 2141s
05/31/2017 2143s
8Jun2017... 2254-EBA

2017 SESSION

17-0730
01/05

HOUSE BILL

400

AN ACT

requiring the department of health and human services to develop a 10-year plan for mental health services, relative to due process rights of persons subject to involuntary emergency admissions, relative to the Philbrook center, relative to reports of abuse and neglect, relative to the commission to study grandfamilies in New Hampshire, and extending the commission to review child abuse fatalities.

SPONSORS: Rep. Danielson, Hills. 7

COMMITTEE: Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Requires the department of health and human services to develop a comprehensive 10-year plan for the mental health system. The plan shall be submitted to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the governor on or before July 1, 2018.

II. Requires the commissioner of the department of health and human services to develop a plan with recommendations to ensure statutory and due process rights of patients subject to involuntary emergency admissions who are in emergency rooms at hospitals or in other facilities.

III. Requires the commissioner of the department of health and human services to develop a plan to remove certain persons from New Hampshire hospital and to determine whether it is practical to relocate the office of professional licensure and certification.

IV. Requires a founded report of abuse and neglect to be based on a preponderance of the evidence, inserts a definition of "unfounded but with reasonable concern," and permits the department of health and human services to issue a confidential letter of concern encouraging the person to seek family support services.

V. Requires the commissioner to make a report relative to the anticipated cost of expanded services to be provided families under RSA 169-C:34.

VI. Eliminates the staffing for the commission to study grandfamilies in New Hampshire.

VII. Extends the commission to review child abuse fatalities.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough.]

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen

AN ACT

requiring the department of health and human services to develop a 10-year plan for mental health services, relative to due process rights of persons subject to involuntary emergency admissions, relative to the Philbrook center, relative to reports of abuse and neglect, relative to the commission to study grandfamilies in New Hampshire, and extending the commission to review child abuse fatalities.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 112:1 Purpose and Findings. The general court finds that it is vitally important that children
2 in the state of New Hampshire be protected from all forms of abuse and that reforms are necessary
3 to ensure the safety of each child. The general court also finds that the state of New Hampshire
4 faces a significant shortage in the state's capacity to provide our citizens with emergency mental
5 health assistance and long term treatment. Accordingly, the general court hereby directs the
6 department of health and human services to take the following steps in order to provide for the
7 safety and welfare of the citizens of this state.

8 112:2 Department of Health and Human Services; Development of a 10-year Plan for Mental
9 Health Services Required.

10 I. The department of health and human services, the bureau of behavioral health, and the
11 division of public health services shall develop a comprehensive 10-year plan for the mental health
12 system. The 10-year strategy shall be founded on the principles of resiliency and recovery,
13 evidence-based practice, effectiveness, and efficiency. In developing the plan, the department shall
14 consult with provider organizations and associations, advocates, and policymakers. The department
15 shall also conduct a needs assessment which includes:

16 (a) An inventory of existing services, including inpatient and outpatient services,
17 housing supports, and peer and family supports; and

18 (b) A gap analysis to determine the need versus the current capacity of services. The
19 analysis shall take into account wait-times for services.

20 II. The plan shall:

21 (a) Focus on a population health approach, particularly regarding the integration of the
22 mental health system with other systems of care, including, but not limited to medical services,
23 substance use services, and social services.

24 (b) Provide specific recommendations and steps to eliminate or reduce to the greatest
25 extent practicable the number of persons waiting in hospital emergency departments and the

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1 resources necessary to implement those actions.

2 (c) Address a continuum of care, encompassing services and supports needed across the
3 lifespan including:

4 (1) Establishing performance metrics to determine effectiveness of services.

5 (2) Emergent models of care.

6 (3) Providing recommendations to policymakers on strategies to meet the goals of
7 the plan.

8 (d) Develop a timeline representing the appropriate phasing of priorities.

9 III. The commissioner of the department of health and human services shall submit the
10 plan to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the governor on
11 or before July 1, 2018. The department shall provide interim reports to the oversight committee on
12 health and human services, established under RSA 126-A:13, on or before October 1, 2017 and on or
13 before March 1, 2018. Thereafter, the department shall report quarterly to the health and human
14 services oversight committee providing an update on the progress of the development and
15 implementation of the plan.

16 112:3 Plan Required for Statutory Due Process Rights of Certain Patients in Hospital
17 Emergency Rooms or Other Facilities. The commissioner of the department of health and human
18 services shall develop a plan with recommendations to ensure timely protection of the statutory and
19 due process rights of patients subject to the involuntary emergency admissions process of RSA 135-
20 C who are awaiting transfer to a designated receiving facility. The recommendations shall provide
21 for judicial review on a schedule consistent with the statutorily required schedule for persons who
22 have been admitted to a designated receiving facility. The commissioner shall consult with
23 representatives of the American Civil Liberties Union of New Hampshire, New Hampshire Hospital
24 Association, the New Hampshire Medical Society, the New Hampshire Psychiatric Society, the
25 superior court system, the New Hampshire Bar Association, the National Alliance on Mental
26 Illness, and the Disability Rights Center-NH. The plan shall be submitted to the oversight
27 committee on health and human services, established in RSA 126-A:13, for approval as soon as
28 practicable. The commissioner shall make a report relative to the plan which shall be submitted to
29 the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, and the governor on or
30 before September 1, 2017.

31 112:4 Plan Required for Removal of Certain Persons From New Hampshire Hospital; Use of
32 Philbrook Center. The commissioner of the department of health and human services shall by
33 November 1, 2017 develop a plan to safely remove the remaining 24 youths from the New
34 Hampshire hospital and to ensure that they continue to receive the care they need. The
35 commissioner shall also examine the practicability of relocating the office of professional licensure
36 and certification, established in RSA 310-A, to another state building to allow the Philbrook center
37 to be used to accept certain persons from the New Hampshire hospital. The commissioner shall

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1 make a report relative to the plan and the relocation of the office of professional licensure and
2 certification which shall be submitted to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president
3 of the senate, the chairs of the house and senate committees having jurisdiction over health and
4 human services, and the governor on or before November 2, 2017.

5 112:5 Child Protection Act; Definitions; Founded Report. Amend RSA 169-C:3, XIII-a to read as
6 follows:

7 XIII-a. "Founded report" means a report made pursuant to this chapter for which the department finds [probable cause to believe] **by a preponderance of the evidence** that the child
8 who is the subject of such report is abused or neglected.

10 112:6 New Paragraph; Child Protection Act; Definition of Unfounded but with Reasonable
11 Concern. Amend RSA 169-C:3 by inserting after paragraph XXVIII the following new paragraph:

12 XXIX. A report that is "unfounded but with reasonable concern" means a report made pursuant to this chapter for which the department determines that there is probable cause to believe the child was abused or neglected, but for which there is insufficient evidence to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the child was abused or neglected.

13 112:7 Child Protection Act; Duties of the Department of Health and Human Services;
14 Administrative Review and Letter of Concern; When Required. Amend RSA 169-C:34, II to read as
15 follows:

16 II. For each report it receives, the department shall promptly perform a child protective investigation to:

17 [(i)] (a) Determine the composition of the family or household, including the name, address, age, sex, and race of each child named in the report, and any siblings or other children in the same household or in the care of the same adults, the parents or other persons responsible for their welfare, and any other adults in the same household;

18 [(ii)] (b) **Determine whether any person in the same family or household was named in a prior report of abuse or neglect, and, if there are 2 or more prior unfounded or unfounded but with reasonable concern reports involving any family or household member, conduct an administrative review of all identified reports;**

19 (c) Determine whether there is probable cause to believe that any child in the family or household is abused or neglected, including a determination of harm or threatened harm to each child, the nature and extent of present or prior injuries, abuse, or neglect, and any evidence thereof, and a determination of the person or persons apparently responsible for the abuse or neglect;

20 [(iii)] (d) Determine the immediate and long-term risk to each child if the child remains in the existing home environment; and

21 [(iv)] (e) Determine the protective treatment, and ameliorative services that appear necessary to help prevent further child abuse or neglect and to improve the home environment and the parents' ability to adequately care for the children.

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1 ***II-a. The department may issue a confidential letter of concern to a person or***
 2 ***persons responsible for the safety and welfare of the child that although there is***
 3 ***insufficient evidence to substantiate a finding of abuse or neglect or of unfounded but***
 4 ***with reasonable concern, the department encourages the person or persons responsible for***
 5 ***the safety and welfare of the child to seek family support services and provide contact***
 6 ***information to obtain such services.***

7 ***II-b. The department may make a confidential determination of unfounded but***
 8 ***with reasonable concern.***

9 112:8 Duties of the Department. Amend RSA 169-C:34, VII to read as follows:

10 VII. If the child's parents refuse to allow a social worker or state employee on their
 11 premises as part of the department's investigation, and the department has probable cause to
 12 believe that the child has been [sexually molested, sexually exploited, intentionally physically
 13 injured so as to cause serious bodily injury, physically injured by other than accidental means so as
 14 to cause bodily injury, a victim of a crime, abandoned,] **abused** or neglected, the department shall
 15 seek a court order to enter the premises. If the court finds probable cause to believe that the child
 16 has been abused or neglected [~~in the manner described in this paragraph~~], the court shall issue an
 17 order permitting a police officer, juvenile probation and parole officer, or child protection service
 18 worker to enter the premises in furtherance of the department's investigation and to assess the
 19 child's immediate safety and well-being. Any juvenile probation and parole officer or child
 20 protection service worker who serves or executes a motion to enter issued under this paragraph
 21 shall be accompanied by a police officer.

22 112:9 Records Management of Abuse and Neglect Reports. Amend RSA 169-C:35-a, III to read
 23 as follows:

24 III. The department shall retain a founded report **or unfounded but with reasonable**
 25 **concern report** for 7 years from the date that the department closes the case, after which time, the
 26 department shall delete or destroy all electronic and paper records of the report.

27 112:10 Report on Anticipated Cost of Expanded Services. The commissioner of the department
 28 of health and human services shall make a report detailing the anticipated cost of expanded
 29 services to be provided under RSA 169-C:34, II-a and II-b, which shall be submitted to the speaker
 30 of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the chairpersons of the house and
 31 senate committees having jurisdiction over health and human services, and the governor on or
 32 before November 2, 2017.

33 112:11 Commission to Study Grandfamilies in New Hampshire. Amend RSA 170-G:17, III to
 34 read as follows:

35 III. Members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The
 36 first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting
 37 of the commission shall be held within 30 days of the effective date of this section. Seven members

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1 of the commission shall constitute a quorum. [The senate health and human services committee
2 staff shall provide clerical, administrative, and research services to the commission as may be
3 needed.]

4 112:12 Contingency. If SB 148 of the 2017 regular legislative session becomes law, section 11 of
5 this act shall take effect at 12:01 am on the date SB 148 becomes law. If SB 148 does not become
6 law, section 11 of this act shall not take effect.

7 112:13 Commission to Review Child Abuse Fatalities; Report Date Extended. Amend RSA 169-
8 C:39-k, V to read as follows:

9 V. The commission shall submit an interim report of its findings and any recommendations
10 for proposed legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives,
11 the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2015.
12 The commission shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations on or before June
13 30, [2017] **2018**.

14 112:14 Commission to Review Child Abuse Fatalities; Repeal Date Extended. Amend 2015,
15 127:6, II as amended by 2016, 201:2 and 2016, 229:3 to read as follows:

16 II. Section 5 of this act shall take effect June 30, [2017] **2018**.

17 112:15 Review by Oversight Committee.

18 I. On or before June 30, 2018, the oversight committee on health and human services,
19 established in RSA 126-A:13, shall review, evaluate, and report on whether measures taken in
20 accordance with the provisions of this act have:

21 (a) Reduced the waiting list and waiting times for designated receiving facilities.

22 (b) Resulted in the referral and receipt of services at the appropriate level of care and in
23 a timely manner.

24 (c) Improved the responsiveness of the state, payers, and providers to customer needs.

25 (d) Allowed the mental health medical supervisor to adequately assist in the mental
26 health triage process.

27 II. The committee shall also include a review and comparison of the cost and benefits of
28 other models of mental health triage and shall make a report including any recommendations.

29 112:16 Effective Date.

30 I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

31 II. Section 4 of this act shall take effect July 2, 2017.

32 III. Section 11 of this act shall take effect as provided in section 12 of this act.

33 IV. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved: June 14, 2017

Effective Date:

- I. Section 3 effective July 1, 2017
- II. Section 4 effective July 2, 2017

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III. Section 11 effective as provided in section 12

IV. Remainder effective June 14, 2017

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